Thunderbolt Chaplains' Newsletter

17th Field Artillery Brigade

Some Helpful Separation Tips

To all the family members, loved ones, and friends of our deployed Soldiers, let me take this time to say to you that you are in our constant thoughts and prayers, especially during the upcoming holiday season.

As you plan for the holidays, we want to encourage you to make the most of it. Make every day count as you enjoy the time with your family and friends. Continue to take pleasure in the things you normally do and enjoy.

Here are some helpful separation tips for making the most of your holidays:

1. Keep a normal routine of activities. Keep things simple and less stressful.

2. Plan accordingly, do not procrastinate. Give yourself an early start with the gifts and cards.

3. If you have children, involve them in the planning process and encourage them to write their gift list early.

4. Keep the line of communication open: Surround yourself with people. Do not hesitate to get together with friends.

5. Sustain your faith and rely on God for personal strength and encouragement.

6. Be realistic and flexible. Do something this holiday season that you wouldn't do.

7. And do not be afraid to ask for help, if needed.

I pray that you would find these tips helpful and an encouragement to you as you look forward to the holidays!

Thought for the Month

During this holiday season, may you and your family find strength, joy, and peace as you reflect on the blessing of the season.

Our prayer and wish for you and your loved ones is that you have a happy holiday season and a Happy New Year as we bring in the new year 2007.

Holiday Dates:

Christmas:	25 DEC 05
Hanukkah:	25 DEC 05
Kwanzaa:	26 DEC 05
New Year:	01 JAN 06

Upcoming Events:

Quarterly Prayer Breakfast:
6:30 am 09 DEC 05
Patriot Club

BN Christmas Party
6:00 pm 09 DEC 05
Patterson Center, Lawton

Manger Lighting:
6:00 pm 12 DEC 05
New Post Chapel

"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given…and He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9: 6

May God Bless you and your family…"Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays!"

17TH FA BDE Chaplains:
CH (CPT) Steve Simpson
CH (CPT) Stephen-J. Smith

"Thunderbolt!"